

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-23 (canceled).

Claim 24 (previously presented): A method of manipulating electronically generated messages belonging to at least two of the following message types: e-mail, fax, video, pager, SMS, voice mail; comprising handling the electronically generated messages using a single messaging application, wherein said single messaging application is run by the same device on which the messages are displayed.

Claim 25 (original): The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of claim 24 wherein the single messaging application handles attributes of messages, these attributes being shared by all of the message types.

Claim 26: (original): The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of claim 25 wherein the single messaging application invokes or applies operations to the attributes of the messages, these operations being applicable to all of the messages types which are capable of being manipulated by the single messaging application.

Claim 27 (original): The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of claim 26 wherein the single messaging application interfaces with one or more databases of loadable software code modules relating to at least one message type specific attributes and operations.

Claim 28 (original): The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of claim 27 wherein a new messaging type can be dynamically added to a system whilst the system is fully operational by adding new loadable software code modules to one or more databases.

Claim 29 (original): The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of claim 26 wherein all user interface code is accessed through a database using loadable software code modules.

Claim 30 – 52 (canceled).

Claim 53 (new): An electronic communications device comprising:

a user interface able to display electronically generated messages to an end-user; and
a single messaging application running locally on the device, the messaging application programmed to handle attributes shared by electronically generated messages of several different messages types; wherein:

(i) the different message types include two or more of: e-mail, fax, video, pager, SMS (short message service), voice mail, music files, video clips; and

(ii) the attributes are generic attributes shared by the different message types and are selected from the list: subject/description, date, size, message type, body text, originator, first recipient, priority, attachment flag.

Claim 54 (new): The device of Claim 53 wherein said user interface can display all incoming messages of any of the different message types in a single in-box window.

Claim 55 (new): The device of Claim 53 in which the single messaging application is further programmed to enable an end-user to manipulate the messages of different messages types from within the single mailbox window, the manipulation comprising an act selected from the list: create, edit, display, send, receive, copy, move, delete, and print, or a combination thereof.

Claim 56 (new): The device of Claim 53 in which the message types are selected from the following list: e-mail, fax, video, pager, SMS (short message service), voice mail, music files, video clips and any message type that has one or more generic attributes.

Claim 57 (new): The device of Claim 53 wherein the single messaging application is further programmed to invoke or apply certain generic operations to the generic attributes of the messages, such as edit, display, send, receive, copy, move, delete, print.

Claim 58 (new): The device of Claim 57 wherein a further application running on the device invokes or applies only these generic operations and not any operations that are specific to a given message type.

Claim 59 (new): The device of Claim 53 wherein, if the messaging application is unable to handle an attribute that is specific to a message type, then it invokes a software code module relating to that attribute, as and when needed.

Claim 60 (new): The device of Claim 59 wherein a new message type can be dynamically added to a system whilst the system is fully operational and without having to be re-started by adding new loadable software code modules.

Claim 61 (new): The device of Claim 60 wherein each loadable software code module is individually capable of enabling the execution of one or more tasks from the following list of tasks:

- (a) Reporting to the messaging application the functional capabilities of one or more loadable software code modules;
- (b) Supplying text for on-screen menus;
- (c) Creating, and/or editing and/or displaying messages;
- (d) Converting messages to be sent by the application to a protocol and format required by an external recipient and the conversion of messages received by the application to a protocol and format required by the messaging application.

Claim 62 (new): The device of Claim 61 wherein the loadable software code is object oriented code which creates real objects to execute a task.

Claim 63 (new): The device of Claim 53 wherein, if the messaging application is unable to handle an operation that is specific to a message type, then it invokes a software code module relating to that operation, as and when needed.

Claim 64 (new): The device of Claim 63 wherein a new message type can be dynamically added to a system whilst the system is fully operational and without having to be re-started by adding new loadable software code modules.

Claim 65 (new): The device of Claim 64 wherein each loadable software code module is individually capable of enabling the execution of one or more tasks from the following list of tasks:

- (a) Reporting to the messaging application the functional capabilities of one or more loadable software code modules;
- (b) Supplying text for on-screen menus;
- (c) Creating, and/or editing and/or displaying messages;
- (d) Converting messages to be sent by the application to a protocol and format required by an external recipient and the conversion of messages received by the application to a protocol and format required by the messaging application.

Claim 66 (new): The device of Claim 65 wherein the loadable software code is object oriented code which creates real objects to execute a task.

Claim 67 (new): The device of Claim 1, being a handheld wireless communications device.